

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 4/7/2011
SB 400



RICH RANCH Outfitting and Guest Ranch

939 Cottonwood Lakes Road / P.O. Box 495 / Seeley Lake, Montana 59868
Ph: 406-677-2317 or 1-800-532-4350 Email: richranch@montana.com

Support for SB 400

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee

My name is Jack Rich. My family and I own and operate a small guest ranch in the Blackfoot Valley near Seeley Lake and Ovando. As a part of our business, we are privileged to host people from coast to coast and all walks of life on adventure vacations, including fair chase hunts from our tent camp in the fabled Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Backcountry Outfitters have been a part of the Montana landscape for over 100 years. And for over 50 years our family has been a part of this legacy. During that time we have worked hard to serve as role model sportsman and stewards of Montana's outdoor resources. Our efforts have been recognized several times over the years, most recently in 2006 with an Outfitter of the Year award from the Montana Wildlife Federation.

Since 1995 we have had the stability of knowing that our booked out-of-state hunting clients could purchase a Montana hunting license. I-161 eliminated that piece of stability for wilderness area outfitters like us. Our hunters can no longer plan ahead and as a result our booked hunts are down over 35% compared to last year. SB 400 will create a block of licenses to help restore some of that stability not only for us, but for the other local businesses and communities around the Bob Marshall (as well as other wilderness areas in the state) who rely on non-resident tourism dollars to help fuel Montana's rural economy.

My family and I would appreciate your support on this important legislation.

Thank You for your time.

Established 1958

Sharing our Montana Lifestyle with others for over 50 years